

Supplemental Letter for FY 2015 Semi-Annual HUB Report for Agency 709

The Texas A&M University Health Science Center (TAMHSC) is committed to providing a good faith effort to initiate, develop, and implement a fair, open, and inclusive procurement process which values and advocates the broadest possible Historically Underutilized Business (HUBs) participation. TAMHSC continues to maintain a successful community outreach effort on behalf of its components located across the state, i.e., Baylor College of Dentistry (Dallas), College of Medicine (College Station/Round Rock/Dallas), Irma Lerma Rangel School of Pharmacy (Kingsville), School of Public Health (College Station/McAllen), and Institute of Bioscience and Technology (Houston).

With this in mind, the TAMHSC is managing a \$285.6 million federal contract to develop a center whose goal is to enhance the United States' ability to counter biological and pandemic threats. The Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) represents one of the largest research grants awarded in Texas. Though federal procurement requirements have demonstrated challenges, the HSC significantly continues to perform well showing a dramatic increase in HUB spend among African American HUBs.

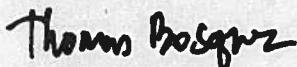
The following is a partial listing of outreach activities conducted thus far in FY 2015:

- Actively participating in regional state-wide HUB meetings
- Actively co-sponsoring and attending in-house specialized economic opportunity meetings
- Assisted qualified, non-certified HUBs to become state HUB certified
- Participated in Minority/Women, Small Business, and Veteran Business forums
- Participate in the Texas A&M System HUB Coordinators Annual Conference/Meeting

In an effort to increase faculty and staff understanding and importance to purchase from HUBs, TAMHSC continues to provide online awareness to personnel who initiate or approve purchases, especially for those items not requiring competitive bid procedures. Our member components are specific healthcare and research institutions, and often must contract for high-dollar, highly specialized goods and services in specialized categories for which the HUB vendor base is limited or non-existent.

The TAMHSC will continue to seek ways to increase future procurement opportunities and strengthening HUB participation throughout the TAMHSC community.

Sincerely,



Thomas Bosquez

Director, HUB Operations, Procurement Services and Contract Administration